TITUSVILLE AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

NEWSLETTER

MARCH, 2001

PRESIDENT'S CORNER

By Bud Hughes K4CWG

On Sunday, February 25, Ken, KD4HNW and many of his friends and relatives put on a wonderful birthday party at Hog Valley repeater site. Mr. & Mrs. Denman, Ken, Chuck, Tommy and Joel were there making sure that everything was just right, and believe you me, it was just right. Vicky (Ken's girl friend), Archie, Stephanie and others were there to assist in the festivities. If you have not visited the site of the next TARC repeater, be sure and attend the next outing to be announced by Ken.

Stephanie's Technician class was a success. At the February 26 test session there were six students - approximately half of her class - who passed the exam and now are licensed hams. The balance of the class will be taking the exam soon.

We are delighted to hear that Ethel, KE4VWA is on the mend. Ethel, we hope you will continue to regain your health. Clyde, K4EOS has had a bout with the flu and is now feeling better. To all others who are experiencing poor health, we wish you a speedy recovery.

Sherry has asked me to correct the e-mail addresses on the roster. I promise that if you will please send me e-mail, I will upgrade the roster listing your correct address. My e-mail is <bhughes@cfl.rr.com>. Best 73s

ITEMS FOR SALE

FOR SALE
ICOM 1CW21AT
DUAL BAND HT W/ACCESSORIES
$250.00
WARREN W4CEL
268-2199

FOR SALE
WHISTLER BRAND
12V-110AC INVERTER
300 WATT CONTINUOUS OUTPUT
2 110V RECEPTACLES
WORKS GOOD
$50.00
CLYDE K4EOS
267-9375

FOR SALE
10 AMP-12 VOLT
DC REGULATED POWER SUPPLY
$40.00
CLYDE K4EOS
267-9375

FOR SALE
TOP SECTION
FOR ROHN #25 TOWER
$25.00
ARCHIE WNDHI
267-8918

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!!!

MARCH BIRTHDAYS

MAR. 3 KG0KE DAVID ARNESON
MAR. 4 AF4LD GARY COMMER
MAR. 6 W4RH FRANK BUTLER, JR.
MAR. 6 KD4DOJ SKID SKIDMORE
MAR. 8 SM6UQP ROBERT ROOS
MAR. 8 WB4LOE LARRY SKIDMORE
MAR. 12 KF4BKY JOE HUSSON
MAR. 13 KC4EHT GERRY WENTZ
MAR. 19 KS4YH JOHN TOWERS
MAR. 20 KD4EYR JUNE ROLL
MAR. 23 WB4PXO JIM MORGAN
MAR. 23 AC4KU AL SANFORD
MAR. 24 K4MVO STEPHANIE PHILLIPS
MAR. 27 AE4OJ DAVID GREENWALD
MAR. 29 W4REN JAN FERGUSON
MAR. 30 KC4TE GENE MANN
MAR. 31 KD4ITX NANCY MARSDEN

LIFE'S A TEST - AND YOU'RE GRADED ON A CURVE

At age 4, success is…not wetting your pants
At age 12, success is…having friends
At age 16, success is…having a driver's license
At age 20, success is…having sex
At age 35, success is…having money
At age 50, success is…having money
At age 60, success is…having sex
At age 70, success is…having a driver's license
At age 75, success is…having friends
At age 90, success is…not wetting your pants

Letter to the Editor

Hi Becky, Last Friday Kim Bohannon came to the WMMB Studio in Melbourne to put on his 3 hour show over 325 + radio stations coast to coast. After interviewing several notables such as Jim Banke of Space.com, Lisa Malone - NASA News Chief, Mayor John Buckley and Andrea Shea King and Zamfir, master of the pan flute, he came out into the audience and came over to me, knowing me from previous concerts. He was eager to hear my rendition of 'The Skaters Waltz'. It went over good and he encouraged me to call into his talk shows in the future. This was my 5th time.

Sincerely, Bill W3SDB

FAMILY HOPEFUL FOLLOWING US SURGERY

From 3/01 QSL "HAPPENINGS"

Willem van Tuijl, the boy wounded one year ago during a pirate attack off the coast of South America, is back home in the Netherlands after a short visit to the US last fall for additional surgery. Willem, 13, and his parents, Jacco and Jannie van Tuijl, KH2TD and KH2TE, had been sailing around the world when the attack occurred last March. The Amateur Radio community rallied on 20 meters in response to Jacco van Tuijl's frantic call for help following the incident. Several amateurs assisted the family in keeping the badly wounded teenager alive as they sailed for a safe harbor in Honduras.

Through the efforts of ARRL President Jim Haynie, W5JBP, Willem was transported to the US for further surgery and rehabilitation. The youth was paralyzed from the waist down as a result of his injuries, however. The van Tuijls returned to the Netherlands in June.

Willem and his family quietly returned to the US in early November so he could undergo advanced nerve-graft surgery that might help restore the proper function of some of his internal organs.

In a bold move, Jaco van Tuijl said, surgeons at Jackson Memorial Hospital in Miami attempted to graft the severed nerves. It's the first time such a procedure has been attempted, and it will be months before it's known whether the surgery was successful.

Van Tuijl said the best possible outcome of the 18 hour long operation would be a return of Willem's ability to flex has hip and knee joints - something that could tremendously improve his quality of life. Just as important could be the restoration of Willem's bladder and bowel functions as a result of the repair.

Many of the expenses of the surgical visit were paid for out of the Willem Fund, established after the youth came to the US for additional medical treatment. Neurosurgeons James Guest and Bart Green and other assisting physicians donated their services, van Tuijl said.

An article about Willem appeared in *People* magazine's year-end issue.

AO-40 PROJECT LEADER "OPTIMISTIC"

AO-40 Project Leader Karl Meinzer, DJ4ZC, has expressed confidence that, despite its problems, the satellite will be functional in the future - although its mission likely will be different from the one planned prior to launch. "Personally, I am optimistic, and I believe that the command and engineering team stands a good chance of turning AO-40 into an extremely useful Amateur Radio satellite." Meinzer said in an early January AMSAT News Service release.

Meinzer said that especially if the ATOS arcjet and the three-axis stabilization systems still work. "AO-40 will still be able to produce a large fraction of the Amateur Radio service expected from it."

Telemetry transmissions from AO-40 ceased December 13 while ground controllers were testing the onboard 400-newton propulsion system following an initial orbital shift. Some observers feared the satellite had been irreparably damaged. A computer reset command Christmas Day brought the satellite back to life, but telemetry data indicate some systems were damaged or lost.

Since Christmas, the AO-40 ground team has been analyzing telemetry sent via the 2.4 GHz beacon - the only operating transmitter - to determine the status of the satellite's onboard systems.

The ground team has determined that, in addition to the 2.4 GHz transmitter, the 2-meter, 70-cm and 1.2 GHz receivers and high-gain antennas are operational. As of mid January, the 70-cm and 1.2 GHZ omnidirectional antennas did not appear to be working, but the status of the 2-meter omnidirectional antenna had not been definitely established.

The 2-meter transmitter was tested briefly, but unsuccessfully. "It demonstrated a marked temperature increase, but no signal was heard," Meinzer said. Additional tests of the 2-meter transmitter were pending at press time, but Meinzer said ground controllers first want to reduce the spacecraft's spin rate "to ensure that the satellite's heat-pipes will be able to handle the dissipation for extended periods."

In early January AO-40 team member and AMSAT-DL Vice President Peter Guelzow, DB2OS, suggested that a small leak on AO-40 could be responsible for the higher spin rate.

Meinzer said AO-40 command stations would follow "a conservative philosophy" in recovery operations.

AMSAT has proposed holding an inquiry into the incident that led to the loss of communication with AO-40

INTERNET LOSES FIRST BATTLE WITH AMATEUR RADIO

From 3/01 CyberSKIP

Tony Petersen N7QVC, is an amateur radio operator from Ontario OR. Mr. Petersen has a very nice Internet web site devoted to ham radio, web cams, and an assortment of other things. He proudly displays his wedding pictures. Recently, Mr. Peterson came under siege from the legal counsel for QVC Corporation who considered him to be a "cybersquatter". Some of the more salient points:

"...Our client is the owner by assignment of a number of United States Certificates of Registration for the well-known mark QVC. These marks are among our client's most valuable assets and must be protected against infringements and other misuses.

Your unauthorized use of N7QVC.COM is an infringement of the QVC marks. That is, your use of N7QVC.COM is likely to cause the public to believe that you are sponsored or approved in some way by our client. In addition, your use of N7QVC.COM constitutes false advertising, because it misrepresents the nature, characteristics, qualities and origin of your commercial activities. Your use of N7QVC.COM also dilutes the distinctiveness of our client's well-known marks. This likelihood of confusion, false advertising and dilution makes you liable for damages and subject to be enjoined under the Federal Trademark Act, 15 U. S. C. 1051 et seq..."

After many letters and telephone calls, N7QVC, with the assistance of the ARRL, private legal council and many letters to QVC Crop. from outraged amateurs, Mr. Peterson was able to convince QVC that his cal lsign was assigned by the US Government and could hardly constitute a patent infringement. The matter of N7QVC may be resolved but there are countless others who will wilt under the pressure of the corporate legal machines, rightly or wrongly.

KODAK RELEASES NEW MC3

Kodak released its new "MC3". A device that combines a digital still camera, a digital video camera and an MP3 music player. Kodak unveiled it at Demo 2001, a high technology product debut conference in Phoenix, Ariz.

Kodak said the MC3 is designed for the many people who use the Internet to send pictures and video clips via e-mail to their family and friends. The company said the new product was made to produce files that can be shared in this manner.

Two versions will be available in retail - one with a 16-megabyte memory card will cost $229, while a 64-megabyte version will sell for $299. "People can also go online to Kodak.com and create an MC3 with personalized configuration up to 192 megabytes of memory," a spokesman added.

"Mr. Nelson...I'm afraid you will have to leave the air for a while during this procedure."

ABELL'S ANECDOTES

By Pike Abell W4EPU

Animal stories are everywhere. This one is about cats, lots of cats. It is true, except as noted.

Clara and I took one of those tour bus trips to Biloxi, Mississippi. The bus departed at 6:00 AM from the parking lot of a motel on Highway 192 near I-95 in West Melbourne.

Rather than get up real early and drive some 45 miles from Titusville to meet the bus, we spent the night before departure at the motel. Our room was on the east side ground floor adjacent to a large wooded area just across the parking lot.

As we were moving our luggage into the room we saw a large brownish cat just a few feet into the woods. I noticed that his tail was shorter than normal. I told Clara that I thought it was a bobcat. To get a better look, I very cautiously walked across the parking lot to the edge of the woods. The cat stayed there, only a few feet away, for a few moments then 'spooked' and ran into the woods. Due to the thick foliage it disappeared from view about 100 feet away. But with that closer look, I realized that it was nothing but a large domestic cat with, for some reason, a slightly shorter tail.

Very interestingly while standing there I saw another cat. Then another and another. Now there were four cats in the woods of all sizes and colors. One half grown kitten even tried to be friendly with me. He was probably just hungry.

Later on, after we had relaxed a few minutes, we drove to a Department store located about a quarter of a mile away on the other side of the woods. As we drove into the store parking lot we saw more cats in the edge of the woods.

By the time we returned to the motel it was dark. We saw several cats roaming around on the outside walkways. Once back in our room, we couldn't get over how many cats we had seen in and around the woods and motel. We surmised that, since we could only see a hundred feet or so into the woods, there may be many more.

When Clara was reading the rate schedule posted on the inside of the door, the part which caught her attention was the line, "Pets are $20.00 extra."

(This is the point when pure speculation came into play.) Now we are assuming that when motorists realize how much their cat(s) are going to cost for lodging they simple open the door, pitch the cats out, holler "SCAT" and slam the door shut. Then when they couldn't find their cats the next morning they simply left them. Perhaps when someone pitched out the big brown cat they slammed the door too soon. That would explain the short tail. 73s Es 88s

Ed. Note: I don't believe we could have done this newsletter for 9 years without Pike's monthly input. We always look forward to reading it, and know that you do, too. Thanks Pike.

NOTICE TO ALL VISITORS

WHAT YOU ARE ABOUT TO WITNESS IS AN AMATEUR RADIO STATION LICENSED AS _____ BY THE FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION IN WASHINGTON, D. C. BEFORE YOU ASK THE QUESTIONS, HERE ARE THE ANSWERS:

1. The total cost of this equipment cannot be discussed here as it creates marital conflicts.
2. No, we cannot send a message to your brother in Hong Kong. We suggest you call Western Union.
3. This is strictly a hobby; we do not have the facilities or the time to fool around with TV sets, radios or hi-fi. We suggest that you see a serviceman.
4. Yes, the antenna in the backyard is essential to the operation of the equipment.
5. The farthest station we have contacted has been in the Ubangiland.
6. The cards on the wall are called QSL cards. They are confirmation of contacts made with other stations.
7. It is technically impossible for this station's equipment to interfere with television reception, telephones or stereo systems. Any interference problems of that nature are caused by design flaws in the home-entertainment devices themselves.
8. An amateur Radio station may only be operated by a highly qualified, technically skilled electronics expert. It takes dedication, training and intelligence to reach the level of competence that justifies one to be licensed by the United States Federal Government. Therefore, it is not considered inappropriate to show proper awe, respect and general obsequiousness when I discuss my hobby or operate the controls

FURTHERMORE...IF YOU ARE GRANTED THE EXTREME HONOR OF BEING INVITED TO SPEAK INTO THE MICROPHONE, PLEASE OBSERVE THE FOLLOWING RULES:

1. Speak in a low and soothing tone.
2. Do not disagree with me in any manner
3. Say no bad words and tell no off-color jokes.
4. It is customary for guests to make complimentary remarks about this station and its licensed operator when talking to other hams on the air.

DO NOT TOUCH ANYTHING, TURN ANY KNOBS, SIT ON EQUIPMENT, ETC. I HAVE LOST SEVERAL VISITORS BY ELECTROCUTION IN THE PAST FEW WEEKS.

JANUARY MINUTES
By Becky Lee KF4HTB

After the Pledge of Allegiance, moment of silence and introduction of members and guests, President Bud Hughes, K4CWG recognized Stephanie, K4MVO who talked about the 6 new hams who have just graduated from her Technical Class class. She asked members to listen to them on the air, and to advise them (in a nice way) of any mistakes they make. She needs Elmers to meet and train these new hams. She said there are another 6 or 8 still studying, and that her next project - after school is out - will be teaching a Boy Scout group. She also mentioned the Red Cross "Ride for the Red" coming up on March 31, and the American Cancer Relay for Life walk on March 16. Call Stephanie if you can volunteer to help at either of these functions.

Bud complimented Ken KD4HNW on the affair held on Sunday at the new North end repeater site, and said that the site was a definite possibility for Field Day.

Bill Eppley W2SDB played his harmonica.

Anthony, KG4CEB suggested setting up the BEARS COM vehicle near the causeway during shuttle launches to promote ham radio and our club. If you are interested in this project, call Anthony.

Les K4SJC said that the repeater will be down until late Thursday, so use the 97 repeater. He also talked about the need for new crystals for 91, and made a motion that the club purchase same. The motion passed.

Bud told the club that Dave NB5EM is no longer physically able to conduct the Thursday net on 91, and someone is needed to take over. He suggested the possibility of several members taking turns. Contact Bud if you can participate.

Ozzie, N4SCY, talked about the new club Website <TitusvilleARC.org.>. If you have not received e-mail from Ozzie, please e-mail him your e-mail address.

TREASURERS REPORT
By Becky Lee, KF4HTB

Balance forward from 2000	$4324.14
Deposits Year to Date	906.00
TOTAL INCOME	**$5230.14**
Expenditures	1286.66
BALANCE AS AT 2/28/01	**$3943.38**

CLUB OFFICERS

President: Bud Hughes, K4CWG. 269-0779
V.Pres: Ozzie Osband, N4SCY. 321-LIFTOFF
Sec/Treas: Becky Lee, KF4HTB, 267-9375

ELECTED BOARD MEMBERS

Pat Renninger, KF4LTY. 267-9431
John Renninger, KE4ZPA. 267-9431
Anthony Hurkala, KG4CEB. 268-4240
Sherry Hughes, KU4ZO. 269-0779

REPEATER CUSTODIAN BOARD MEMBERS

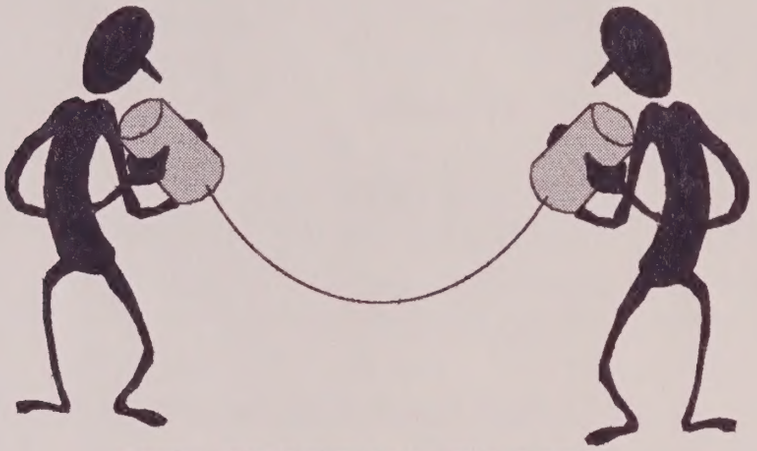
Les Griner, K4SJC (146.91) 267-1565
Warren Murray, W4CEL (146.97) 638-5476
Dave McLean, WB4SIG (444.15) 267-6181
Larry Carr, WB9MFJ (Packet-Rose Node) 268-4114

CLUB INFORMATION

Meetings: Monthly on 4th Tuesday at 1900 hrs. at Jaycee Building
Newsletter Editors: KF4HTB Becky Lee
K4EOS Clyde Lee
Nets: **VIP**-Thursdays at 1000 hrs. 146.910
Friendship-Thursdays at 1830 hrs. 146.910
Mosquito-Wednesdays at 1900 hrs. 28.333
Traders-Fridays at 2000 hrs 146.910

Bud said that the City of Titusville has allocated $8000 for the purchase of emergency radio equipment, and he needs help in compiling a list of equipment needed.

TITUSVILLE AMATEUR RADIO CLUB
P. O. BOX 73
TITUSVILLE FL 32781-OO73



THE ORIGINAL HAMS?

MEMBERSHIP UPDATE
Total membership: 220 (148 regular, 53 family, 13 honorary, 6 other)
NEW MEMBERS:
KG4KVO ED WIRTH
KG4LOB ERROL STEVENS
K0TAX DAVID HARRIS
RENEWALS:
AE4CB DAVID HURST
W4EPU PIKE ABELL
KE4YQL CLARA ABELL
WR4FSU R. D. STRAUGHN
WC4FSU HELEN STRAUGHN
W4GBW CHARLES MOREHOUSE
KC4HIO RICHARD SWEATT
KCEHIQ SHIRLEY SWEATT
KD4JBL WILLIE WILLIAMS
WB4ZUY WYNN ROSTEK
WB4ZUZ THERESA VALEK

HAMFESTS: 03/10 SUNRISE
03/17 STUART
04/21 TAMPA
04/28-29 GAINESVILLE
07/21-22 MILTON
08/25 FORT PIERCE
09/1-2 MELBOURNE